

Collegelife

Find out what's going on at Weston College



WESTON
COLLEGE



Investment

Investing in fantastic facilities
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Outstanding results

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Golden girl

UK National Apprentice of the Year,
Emma Rogers tells us how Weston
College helped her follow her dreams.

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Plus lots more inside...

WIN
a Kindle
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Hello

from Weston College

Weston College's strapline is 'creating brighter futures', and this is what we aim to achieve for all of our students.

Our exam results and pass rates are consistently above national averages, reinforcing our position as the top-performing college in the West of England.

In 2012, we achieved an outstanding 99.8% A level pass rate, with 80% gaining A*-C grades, and 50% A*-B.

Every Weston College degree student passed their course, with 20% achieving First Class Honours – well above the national average of 8%. And the success story doesn't end there – we also achieved a 98% pass rate in vocational courses and 1,200 of our apprentices achieved their full apprenticeship.

Whether you're joining us from school, progressing to a degree, looking to gain new skills or progress in your job, Weston College has the course and programme of study for you.

We are the only education provider in North Somerset that enables its students to progress from entry level to a degree. We offer over 100 vocational courses, 27 A levels, more than 50 increasingly-popular apprenticeships and also provide the opportunity to study 22 Foundation Degree and 11 BA/BSc Honours top-ups with our partner universities.

At Weston College, we refuse to stand still and are continually looking to develop and grow. An £11 million project to redevelop our South West Campus is close to completion and we have recently opened Weston Bay centre – a unique facility for people with autism.

Whatever you choose to study, your time at Weston College will increase your skills, boost confidence and help you create a brighter future.

It's an exciting time to be joining us and I look forward to welcoming you.

Dr Paul Phillips,
Principal and Chief Executive
OBE



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Fancy learning a new skill? Take a look at our latest selection

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Best in the West

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WIN
a Kindle

Don't miss out on the chance to win a Kindle in our free prize draw competition.



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Degree students soar above national average

Once again Weston College Higher Education students excel in results on Honours Degree programmes: **An outstanding 20% of students achieved First Class Honours in 2012 compared to the national average of 14%, while the overall pass rate was 100%.**

Furthermore, 65% of leavers progressed to graduate level related employment after completing their degree and honours programmes – 20% above the national average.

Most degree courses at Weston College include a work placement element; crucial in equipping students with the experience and skills required to find employment.

Four of the students who achieved First Class Honours came from the BA (Hons) Creative Industries: Graphic Design course. Abigail Davies, David Higgs, Jodie Smith and Leah Beecham who are all now working successfully in the design field.

Jodie, 22, said: "I'm so pleased I went to Weston College because there was a nice balance between the academic and social side. The lecturers were extremely helpful and there wasn't competition between people on my course, which meant we all helped each other at different times. That made it more enjoyable for me."

Jodie is now working as a designer for The Real Adventure, a marketing agency in Bristol.



Jodie Smith

Best in the West – again!

Weston College is best in the West for the second year running according to the results of a new poll funded by the Skills Funding Agency.

The Framework for Excellence survey rated Weston College ahead of Bath, Bristol, Strode, Bridgwater, Wiltshire and Exeter colleges, in terms of 'learner satisfaction'.

Claire Bushell, the College's Executive Lead for Quality and Learning, said: "This is a fantastic achievement for Weston College for the second year running with nearly 3,000 students participating. Our overall score for learner satisfaction at Weston was 85% and our highest accolade was 83% for the respect students received from staff."

"This is an excellent result and shows just how highly our students think of their College."

Principal Dr Paul Phillips, OBE, added: "I am very proud of our team at Weston College and the fact that their tremendous hard work has been appreciated by so many learners and now recognised by the Government."

The Skills Funding Agency is a partner organisation of the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, which invests over £3 billion annually in colleges and training organisations, to fund training for adults in England.



College wins prestigious national Beacon Award

A Weston College degree course has been recognised for its excellence at a national education conference.

The Foundation Degree in Inclusive Practice – aimed at people working in the Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (LDD) field – was honoured with a Beacon Award at the Association of Colleges (AoC) annual conference.

Presented by City & Guilds, the UK's leading provider of vocational qualifications, the award recognises outstanding practice in staff development at FE level, rewarding innovative best practice that delivers identifiable results and benefits.

The College's FdA Inclusive Practice was launched in 2007 to meet the needs of staff working in the LDD area.

It was the first qualification of its kind in the country, and is a beacon of learning for other colleges and organisations working in the same field. Almost 50 Weston College staff members have taken the qualification, with an outstanding 100% pass rate.

College staff, including Principal and Chief Executive Dr Paul Phillips, travelled to Westminster to receive the Beacon Award for staff development.

Programme Co-ordinator Barbara Titmuss said: "It's great to see the success of the course, from a pilot of eight students in 2007 to this year's

intake of 21 and a waiting list already for next year. This is a testament to the commitment of staff teaching on the course and the desire of people working in this field to strive for excellence in their professional practice."

Dr Paul Phillips said: "We have long understood the importance of meeting the needs of learners with LDD and this award shows how seriously we take staff development in this field."



Skills Minister Matthew Hancock presents the Beacon Award to Weston College Principal and Chief Executive, Paul Phillips OBE, with (from left) Jude Ferguson, Jacqui Ford and Peggy Tovey also pictured.



Largest provider of apprenticeships in the region

Weston College is the biggest facilitator of apprenticeship programmes in the region and has seen a 77% growth in apprenticeship applications, with more than 20 new apprenticeship job vacancies available each month.

Bobby Turner, 22, from Weston, undertook a Business Administration apprenticeship at Weston College and has recently begun a new role with the procurement team at Lloyds Banking Group.

He said: "I would recommend an apprenticeship to anyone as there are some great job opportunities available. They are tailored to your particular role and the experience teaches you what's involved in working in a business environment."

Apprenticeship pop-up shop

Hundreds of potential apprentices and employers attended events held by Weston College to mark National Apprenticeship Week.

The College opened a pop-up shop in the town's Sovereign Centre and held an Open Evening to promote the benefits of apprenticeships.

The pop-up shop ran for a week, with staff and apprentices keen to pass on their knowledge of apprenticeships and how employment training can benefit employers and employees.

Activities included learning how to cook a BLT, building a brick wall, hairdressing and beauty demonstrations and exploring child development with toys from different time periods.

Exceptional results

99.8%

of 16-18 year olds passed their A levels in 2012

98%

pass rate for vocational qualifications

65%

of Weston College graduates secured a graduate level job within 6 months of finishing their degree

20%

of degree-level students gained First Class Honours compared to the national average of 14%

1,200

apprentices achieved their full apprenticeship



An exceptional year in adverse times was celebrated at Weston College as staff, businesses and council leaders gathered for the release of its Annual Report.

Representatives from North Somerset and Weston Town councils, along with businesses and organisations, were among 200 people who met for the launch of the Annual Report which highlights the College's achievements in 2011/12.

Welcoming guests, College Principal and Chief Executive Dr Paul Phillips OBE said: "Despite the challenging economic climate, creating brighter futures remains paramount and we place great emphasis upon partnerships.

"By Ofsted standards, Weston College is outstanding, with a success rate 11% above the national benchmark. We are in the top 5% of Further Education colleges and top 2% of FE colleges offering long courses.

"We are bucking the national trend by investing more than £7 million in the College this year. When I started 11 years ago we had a turnover of £7 million. This year it's £34 million and next year it is set to be £45 million."

Among those attending the breakfast were representatives from local schools, Avon and Somerset Police, Bristol Airport, Weston Area Health Trust and local businesses.

Transformational learning in prisons

Weston College is bringing its unique brand of education into prisons across the South West after successfully bidding for the Government's Offender Learning contract for the region.

The College is delivering education packages to thousands of prisoners across the South West. The focus of the successful bid, worth £10 million per year, was based around 'transformational learning' and raising aspirations – ensuring that an education package is provided that meets the needs of prisoners when they complete their sentence.

Peggy Tovey, Weston College's Deputy Principal, is responsible for the implementation of this contract. She said: "This contract is very challenging but it is also very rewarding, and our aim is to see a new generation of prisoners turn their lives around after taking up the courses we will be offering."

Engaging employers

As well as providing educational facilities to thousands of offenders under the Weston College brand, a key aim is to engage employers large and small to find work for ex-offenders and those out on licence.

Peggy Tovey explained: "Social Enterprises are key to driving forward success, enabling offenders to participate and experience real work. Eastwood Park women's prison in Gloucestershire have launched an innovative enterprise making luxury soap in partnership with the Shaw Trust and Weston College – just one example of the future of education in prisons."

David Burton, Weston College's Senior Sales and Business Development Manager, said: "Increasing employer engagement with the prisons is a key part of this contract and already we're seeing very positive moves in this direction. We hope to create links with well-known high street retailers and charitable and voluntary sector organisations prepared to give offenders a start."

Golden girl



A former Weston College apprentice and winner of the Principal's Outstanding Achievement Award has become UK National Apprentice of the Year.

Emma Rogers, 20, of Nyland, Cheddar, was also the College's Apprentice of the Year in 2010.

The young mum, who is profoundly dyslexic, has also opened her own shop – Beauty by Emma in Wedmore.

Emma said: *"I was so shocked and happy when I was told I'd won Apprentice of the Year; it's the best award yet."*

"Every time I win something it's a great surprise but inspires me to go on to the next thing."

"Studying at Weston College has been an amazing journey for me and it's one I am keen to share, to help support other young people find their path in life."

Emma received her Adult Learners' Week Apprentice of the Year Award at a lunch in London's Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre in May.

Emma started her apprenticeship in April 2010 but left in December to have her son Charlie-James. When he was just three months old, she returned to win Gold in her first UK WorldSkills heat.

Emma went on to win two WorldSkills rounds and then gold at the national final. As top beautician in the UK she trained to represent the United Kingdom in Germany.

WorldSkills is the largest unique biannual global competition involving almost 1,000 apprentices and students, aged 18 to 24 in 46 skill areas.

"My business is successful and it's thanks to the training, support and vision that I received at Weston College."



Around 5,500 young people compete for a place in the British squad made up of world-class vocational competitors in skills including mobile robotics, graphic design, carpentry, catering and mechanics.

At the same time, she completed her Level 2 and progressed to Level 3 beauty therapy and took care of Charlie-James, who is now two years old.

Emma said: *"I struggled at school because I'm dyslexic but I was happy to find what I was good at. I have to force myself to deal with paperwork for my business but do it."*

"I didn't expect to be a mum so young but having Charlie-James inspired me to get on and make the most of my life. His dad is very supportive, as are both our families."

"My business is successful and it's thanks to the training, support and vision I received at Weston College."

Emma was nominated by her tutor, co-ordinator of Apprentices in Beauty, Hair, Barbering and Nails, Tanita Veal.

Tanita added: *"Every now and then someone crosses your path who is truly exceptional. Emma is like a breath of fresh air."*

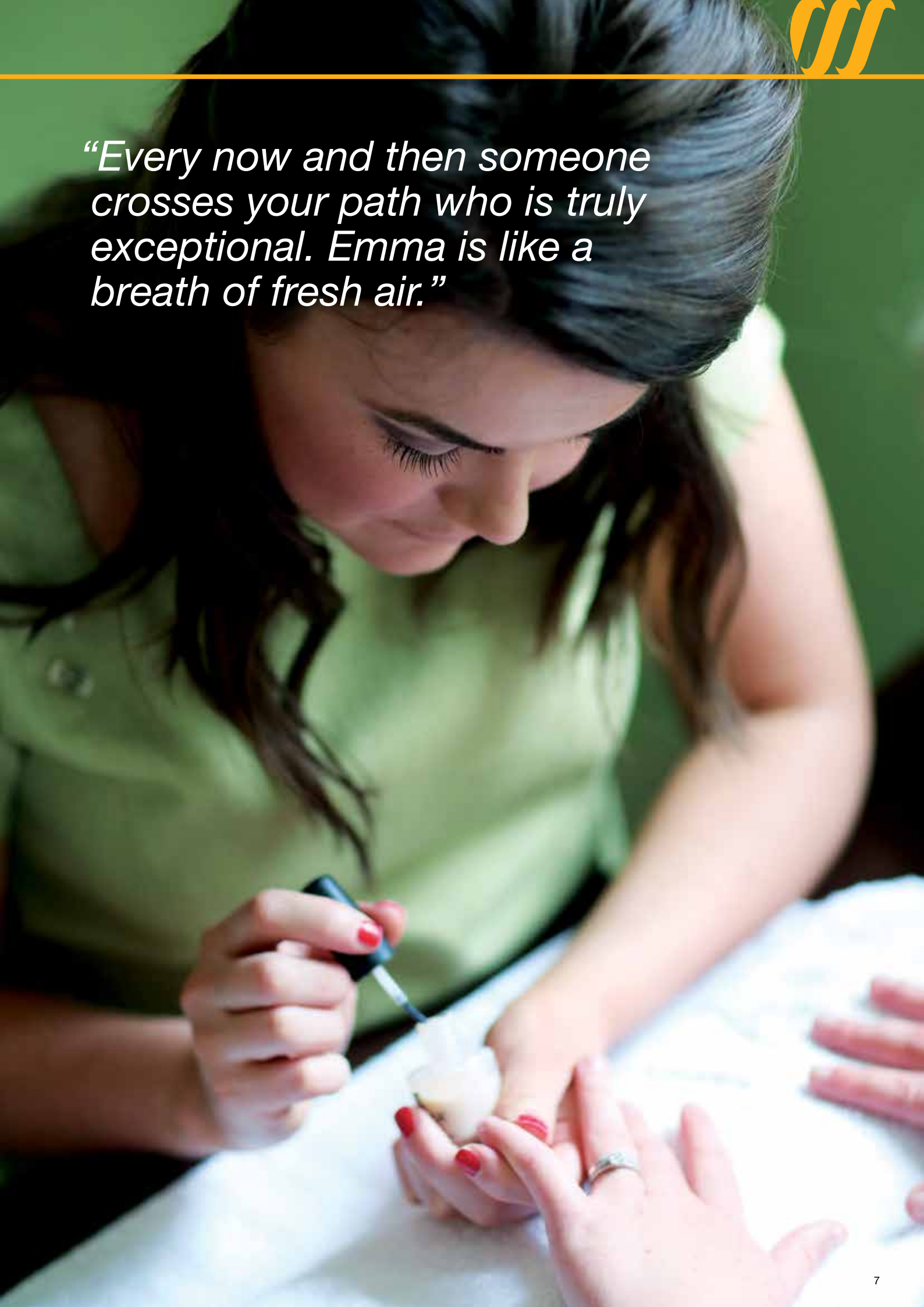
"She's displayed drive, passion, enthusiasm and total dedication to her apprenticeship, training and learning."

"We supported Emma with her dyslexia and she has overcome this and proved it isn't a barrier to learning. She is an amazing person with courage, focus and commitment."

Interested in hair and beauty? Go to www.weston.ac.uk to find out more.



“Every now and then someone crosses your path who is truly exceptional. Emma is like a breath of fresh air.”



Investing in *fantastic facilities*



Weston College continues to invest heavily in its buildings and facilities, despite the economic downturn, to ensure students receive the best possible resources in the South West. A number of exciting projects have been undertaken to provide modern, sustainable and inclusive learning facilities across the town.



South West Skills Campus

Major building works continue at the South West Skills Campus (SWSC). The Locking Road campus, which houses the Business Enterprise Centre (BEC) and the Construction and Engineering Centre of Excellence (CECE). It is currently undergoing an extensive transformation at a total cost of £11 million.

The former 'Hub' building has been refurbished and extended, with the top floor becoming BEC's new home, complete with classrooms, office space, training facilities and space for the College's business partners. The ground floor comprises a new reception area, bistro-style canteen, 'LibraryPlus' facility, student support and IT facilities.

Earlier in the year, the new centre for Foundation Studies was completed as well as the creation of a multi-purpose sports surface that serves the whole of the campus.

The work also includes the extension of the Motor Vehicle Workshop and the refurbishment of all the property at the front of the site. This is due for completion in the spring of 2014 and will provide the College with a superb entrance way to the South West Skills Campus.

Green technologies

The introduction of cutting-edge green technology is at the forefront of the new South West Skills Campus development.

The project, funded in partnership with North Somerset Council, involves a rainwater harvesting system, woody biomass boiler, solar thermal array, ground source heat pump and solar photovoltaic system costing more than £165,000.

Weston College Building Services and Environmental Technology Manager, Chris Simpson, said: "*Weston College will cut its carbon footprint and be a driving force behind the provision of environmental technology training in the South West of England.*"

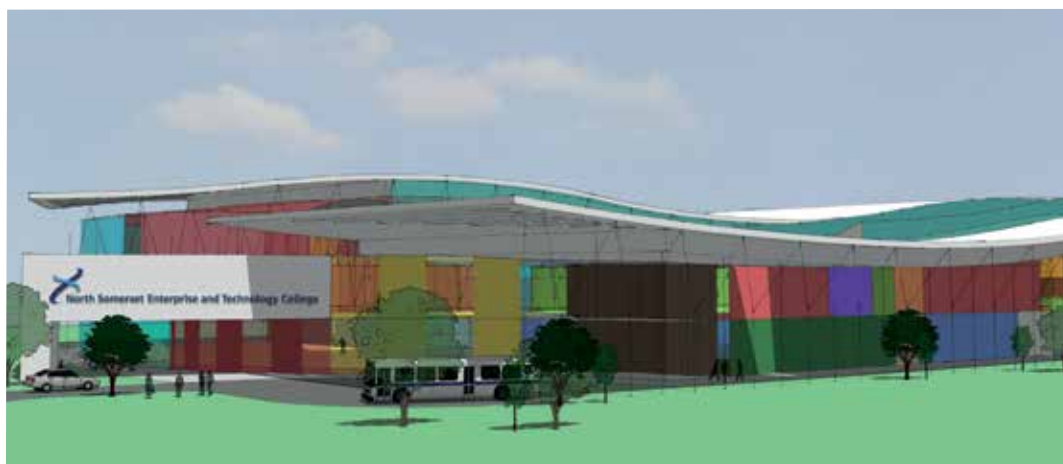
The programme includes a £700,000 sustainable detached eco-house built for students and visitors.

University Campus

The College is also investing in its University Campus. Subject to planning permission, six new classrooms will be created to accommodate the growing number of students studying at this campus.



Interested in a course? *Want to find out more?*



North Somerset Enterprise Technology College

A Weston College-led bid to create a new 14-19 education establishment for North Somerset has been given the green light by the Government.

After a tough selection process, the Department for Education (DfE) decided to select the North Somerset Enterprise and Technology College (NSETC), placing it in the top ten of 'free school' bids received from across the UK.

The bid was led by Weston College with a significant range of partners including the NHS, Clarks, University of the West of England and North Somerset Council.

Weston College Principal and Chief Executive Dr Paul Phillips said: "This heralds a real change in teaching and learning for the whole of North Somerset. The

new institution will deliver to 14-19 year olds, with phase one starting in 2014 for 16-19 year olds. Our focus will be on superb teaching and learning complemented by state-of-the-art resources with a commercial and industrial focus.

The 700-pupil college will have a focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) combined with a strong business ethos. Young people will wear business attire and will be expected to attend from 9am-5pm rather than traditional school hours in order to start to prepare them for the world of work.

Weston Bay

Weston College has opened a unique facility for people with autism, continuing its development of innovative learning solutions.

The new centre is the first of its kind in the UK to be developed by a general Further Education college and specialises in support for learners on the autism spectrum. It allows students to access and progress to Higher Education, independent living and employment.

The Academy is extensively resourced and complemented by residential accommodation at the Weston Bay hotel, along Weston's sea front.

The 10-bedroom hotel was transformed last summer to accommodate the first intake of students in October 2012.

Weston Bay teaches students to understand and manage their learning difficulty, promoting both independent living and improved



career opportunities. It is a welcome development for parents of young people with autism, who want them to be educated in North Somerset and not at a specialist out-of-county college.

Jacqui Ford, Assistant Principal Curriculum and Partnership, said: "This new academy is a vital component in learning provision in the West of England which will support learners on the autism spectrum across North Somerset and beyond. The residential element is an essential part of the plan to ensure that learners can successfully progress and become more independent."

Telling the stories of success

"Despite the challenging economic climate, we have demonstrated our massive impact on our community, for our students and for society"

Dr Paul Phillips OBE, Principal and Chief Executive

"None of us could have anticipated the dynamic transformation of Weston College over the last decade. It is an inspirational and exciting place where learning ambition is the key focus, complemented by an unrivalled team of staff and state-of-the-art resources."

Jude Ferguson, Chair of Governors

"As students, we are given all the help we need and there are many high quality resources and facilities to enable you to reach your full potential."



Hayley Martin – student

"Weston College believes in investing for the students and these new buildings will contribute to the training of a workforce ready to meet the demands of the future."

Linda Burlison Assistant Principal – Systems and Resources



Steven Berkoff opens performing arts facilities

Acclaimed actor, playwright and director, Steven Berkoff, opened the £1 million refurbished Wessex Academy of Performing Arts at Weston College and cut the ribbon to a theatre named after him.

Berkoff, who has appeared in *Clockwork Orange*, *Bond film Octopussy*, *Rambo*, *Beverly Hills Cop* and *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, gave master classes in Shakespeare and mime to students.

Steven Berkoff, 75, said: *"The students demonstrated inimitable talent. They've been terrific and I was very warmed by such a joyful welcome."*



Sasha cast in London musical

Former Weston College student Sasha Latoyah experienced her first taste of the theatrical limelight after being cast in London musical 'RENT'.

Sasha successfully achieved her National Diploma in Performing Arts, followed by the Foundation Degree in Musical Theatre and then progressed on to the BA (Hons) top-up which is offered at the College, in partnership with Bath Spa University.

Sasha, who secured the part after a gruelling audition process, said her time at Weston College helped her prepare for life in the tough world of show-business. *"My lecturers were always realistic about this industry but they didn't dash anyone's hopes. I see now how well we were taught and I'd advise anyone who wants a career on the stage to see what Weston College can offer."*

BBC journalist inspires media students

A BBC News 24 presenter and former Weston College student returned to her roots to give an inspiring talk to media students about her career.

Sophie Long was raised in Weston and attended Broadoak School before studying A levels at Weston College's Sixth Form Centre. After training at Falmouth she worked for Reuters, ITN and BBC regional centres before her post with BBC News 24.

Sophie said: *"Facilities at the College have improved so much – I wish I was a student and could do it all again. I enjoyed coming back and encouraging the students to work hard to achieve their ambitions."*



'Chef to the stars' starts at Weston

A British chef who has cooked for royalty, Presidents and celebrities is now teaching catering students at Weston College. Jos Wellman has created meals for most of the royal family including Her Majesty the Queen, Prince Phillip, Prince Charles and Princess Diana as well as US Presidents Carter, Reagan, Clinton and the Bush's senior and junior. He's made dinners for Frank Sinatra, several James Bond actors, Bon Jovi and a four-tier chocolate cake for Janet Jackson's 30th birthday.

Jos, of *The Mount*, said: *"I love my new job and it's great to be back in England. I'm getting used to the cold but I'm still looking for the sea here – I need binoculars!"*

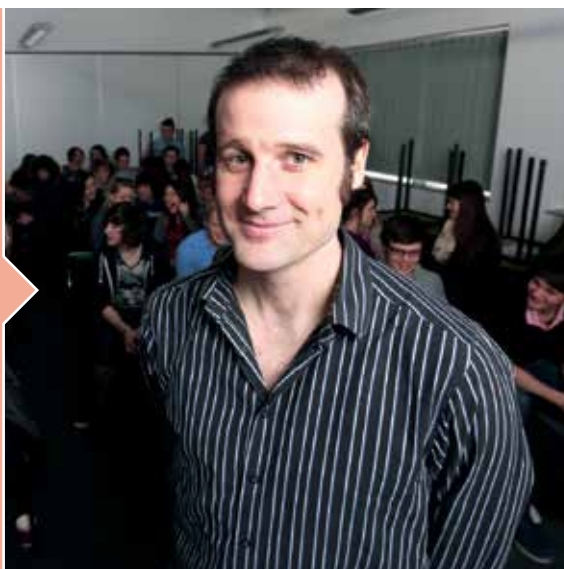
Weston College Head of Catering Graham Smith added: *"It's fantastic to have such a talented and experienced chef like Jos on the team. Our faculty is going from strength to strength because people see how well chefs can do all over the world."*

Stand-up's routine multiplies the laughter

Weston College took a novel approach to number crunching when it invited 'stand-up mathematician' Matt Parker to entertain college and school students.

Australian-born Matt, who has become well-known for his YouTube videos and appearances on radio, came to speak to A level Maths students.

As well as showing the funny side of maths in everyday use – for example, demonstrating how numbers work in a typical episode of the Simpsons – Matt is passionate about getting young people to engage with maths as a subject and his talks are as educative as they are funny.



Be smart – download our app!

Students are being urged to download their future after Weston College released its smartphone app.

The FREE app allows you to check out the latest College news, courses, apprenticeship vacancies, photos and films.

To download the app, go to the App Store on your iPhone or Google Play on your Android handset – and search for 'Weston College'.



College awarded offender learning contract

Weston College is bringing its unique brand of education into prisons across the South West after successfully bidding for a £10 million per year Government's Offender Learning contract for the region.

The College now delivers education packages to thousands of prisoners in 11 institutions, employing around 250 staff. Weston College Principal Dr Paul Phillips said: *"The majority of prisoners want to engage in learning but it has to be purposeful in their eyes and therefore induction at a prison level is crucial, as is the need to maintain support when prisoners are about to be released."*



College footballers compete in 'World Cup'

Fifteen Weston College Football Academy students were amongst 37,500 young people who took part in the Gothia World Cup in Sweden.

The largest youth world cup saw 1,615 teams from 78 nations from Australia and Brazil to Mongolia, Mexico and Iraq play in Gothenburg.

Football Academy Director, Ryan Northmore, said: *"We won a local tournament which qualified our academy team to represent the United Kingdom's 'Meet the World Team'. We made it to the last 32 teams, playing against teams from Canada, Czech Republic, Sweden and France."*

New PCC inspired by College visit

Avon and Somerset's elected Police and Crime Commissioner, Sue Mountstevens, was inspired by a group of Weston College students trying to strike up a better relationship between young people and the police.

Mrs Mountstevens visited the College to listen to the results of a specially-commissioned survey into attitudes towards policing and crime, and to address concerns and questions posed by students. Drug-related crime and violence was a particular priority for Weston students, who also told Mrs Mountstevens that fear of crime was strong.



Computing students step into the future

Weston College computing students experienced the future of education by presenting projects as avatars in a virtual classroom.

Instead of writing on a whiteboard or presenting via PowerPoint, the second year FdSc Applied Computing students created virtual representations of themselves.

It is hoped that the use of avatars will encourage students to think about how presenting virtually might work in other scenarios, including education, seminars and workplace training or meetings.



College Fitness Suite equipped to Olympic standard

The chance to train at Olympic sporting standard is on offer for Weston College students following a £60,000 upgrade.

The Fitness Suite, on the top floor of the Knightstone Campus, now houses a range of TechnoGym cardio-vascular machines of the kind used in the London Olympic Village.

New equipment includes running and upper-body machines, cross trainers and a dual adjustable pulley. The machines are capable of highly accurate performance measuring and are integrated into the various sports teaching courses we offer.



Weston College helps launch prison soap initiative

Eastwood Soaps was opened for business in May and is employing eight women at the female-only prison, Eastwood Park. This social enterprise developed in partnership with the Shaw Trust and the prison, produce luxury soap. This soap has been designed and manufactured in-house and will be sold to prison and Weston College staff and also in Shaw Trusts 50 charity shops in England and Wales.

Apprenticeship scheme spreads its influence

Weston College has extended its apprenticeship scheme to Cornwall and now offers more than 50 apprenticeships and supports 1,500 apprentices in the South West including Devon, Dorset, Bristol and Gloucestershire.

Maddy Sutton is one of a rising number of A level students across the South West who have chosen work-based training instead of university. Maddy, 19, began an Advanced apprenticeship in the product development and technical support team of Barnstaple-based pharmaceutical company Actavis UK Ltd.



Students learn lessons in management from the experts

Second year Foundation Degree students on the College's Tourism Management and Business Management courses gathered for a workshop with Mike Mallett, the Learning and Development Team Manager for PRU Health.

Organised into teams, the students were faced with a variety of tasks and challenges before being asked to assess their performance.

Mr Mallett said: "I gave the students a case study and four associated tasks which tested their understanding of Human Resource issues. They've had plenty theoretical knowledge through their courses and it's great to be able to facilitate a practical environment in which they can test out this knowledge."

Raising awareness of hearing impairments

Weston College held a Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Awareness Week to encourage greater understanding and inclusion of the impairment.

Profoundly deaf poet, Donna Williams, performed in British Sign Language and there were also information stands, top communication tips and free British Sign Language A-Z booklets.



Former soldier launches his own business after re-training at Weston College

Weston College has re-trained a former British soldier who suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder to set up his own business – which will raise money for injured army personnel.

Kevin Phelps, of St George's, launched 'Getting Plastered' after successfully completing Level 1 Plastering at the Construction and Engineering Centre of Excellence (CECE).

The 39-year-old said: "I still miss the army but had reached a point where I wanted to completely change my life. Weston College has helped me move on and I can't thank the staff enough."

A level students visit Parliament

Weston College A level Law and Forensic Science students toured London's Houses of Parliament and Supreme Court in a visit organised by the Parliament Education Service.

As well as an interactive 'making laws' workshop, the 26 students met Weston MP John Penrose who talked about his role and answered questions. The students saw the Speaker's ceremony in the House of Lords and at the House of Commons and they listened to a debate led by Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, Iain Duncan-Smith.



Weston College wins prestigious award

Weston College has been awarded the Sword of Honour by the British Safety Council. It's one of just 79 organisations in the world to receive this award and the only FE college.

The five-star award is for the very high standards of health and safety implemented at the College after an intense five day inspection.



Students visit For All Healthy Living Company as sweeping changes arrive in NHS

Weston College Public and Environmental Health students visited the Chief Executive of the For All Healthy Living Company on the town's Bournville Estate.

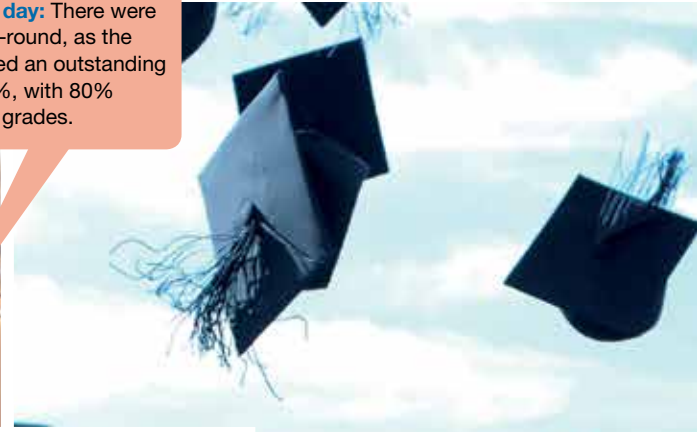
As well as meeting Mark Graham the fact-finding tour focussed on how new Government reforms are set to help prevent disease and prolong life in areas of deprivation.

"Public health covers everything that prevents illness and extends life. It includes promoting physical activity and better diets as well as stop smoking services."

The All Healthy Living Company runs the Lonsdale Avenue centre, manages the GP practice and operates a range of services and projects for people in the south ward.



A level results day: There were celebrations all-round, as the College achieved an outstanding pass rate 99.8%, with 80% achieving A*-C grades.



Thousands visited the annual Creative Arts show. This show featured the work of more than 550 talented and creative students on courses including Art and Design, Graphics, Photography, Media Production, Music and Fashion.



Golden girl: Former Weston College beauty apprentice Emma Rogers wins UK National Apprentice of the Year.



Hats off to degree success: Hundreds of students from a wide range of courses celebrated their graduation day.



A star is born: Former Weston College student George Shelley reaches the semi-final of the X-Factor as part of the group Union J.



Celebrating success: Outstanding students, staff and employers received awards at the College's Celebration of Success event.



Ladies get to grips with DIY: A group of independent women and widows are taught basic DIY skills at the College's Construction and Engineering Centre of Excellence.



Outstanding A level results

A level results day, once again, proved to be a story of outstanding success for students at Weston College.

The hard work of the students combined with the dedication of staff, produced a superb 99.8% A level pass rate, with 80% achieving A*-C grades, and 50% gaining A*-B.

Among the many success stories at Weston College, was Kathryn Hayward, who is now at Oxford University studying Law with French after achieving A*s in English Literature and Law, and As in French and History.

Another high flyer was Tom Stephen, 18, of Weston, who gained A*s in Maths and Biology, and A in Chemistry. He took up a place at Loughborough University studying Chemical Engineering.

He said: *"I worked very hard and I'm delighted. Weston College has been a terrific place to study. They give you all the resources you need to achieve, and also the freedom to socialise and make good friends."*

An unexpected A* in Law saw Jamie Richardson change his university plans. The 18-year-old, from Worlebury, also achieved an A in History and B in Business Studies. He said: *"I was offered a place studying History at Cardiff University but I want to become a solicitor so I'm going to swap and study Law at Cardiff instead."*

"I didn't do very well in AS Levels last year, but the College was very supportive and I'm really pleased with my results this year."

However, not all students took the academic route. Despite gaining grades good enough to land him a university place, 18-year-old Ben Adams, of Burnham-on-Sea, decided to pursue an apprenticeship in accountancy.



Dr Paul Phillips, Weston College Principal and Chief Executive said:

Our brilliant results reflect a dynamic institution totally committed to the learners of North Somerset and the many learners who travel to us from Bristol, Bath and Bridgwater.



John McShane A levels: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Maths, Further Maths

Studying five A levels, John experienced some time-management problems, but the support he received from staff helped him to keep on top of workload and achieve good results. John thoroughly enjoys his A level subjects, particularly the strong sense of community shared by the students.

What next? John aims to study a Maths degree at Cambridge University after completing his A levels and would eventually like to use his qualifications and skills to help solve some of the world's major problems.



I chose Weston College because of the high A level results and the excellent reputation of the teaching staff.



Interested in a course? Want to find out more?



Vocational students are top of the class

Weston College's position as the top-performing College in the West of England was reinforced by its vocational course results.

An outstanding 98% pass rate was achieved in vocational courses in 2012, as students gained work-based skills and qualifications that will allow them to progress towards their career goals.

Weston College offers over 100 vocational qualifications (VQs) in a wide range of subjects. VQs are work-related qualifications, which include

Diplomas, NVQs and VRQs, and are designed to allow students to learn in a way that suits them. They provide the skills that employers are looking for and the ability to progress to degree-level qualifications if this is what they prefer.

The College is offering a number of exciting new courses this year, including plumbing, motor vehicle, game design and event management.



**Michael Moore,
Motor Vehicle
Maintenance, Level 1**

Michael has enjoyed his course as it has a practical focus and he says students get great support from industry experts. Michael believes he has greatly benefitted from working on real life situations and meeting genuine customers; he feels this will really help him when he is applying for jobs.

What next? Michael plans to complete Level 2 and 3 of the Motor Vehicle Maintenance course. Ultimately, he would like to open up his own garage.

Weston is first college in UK to launch its own TV channel

Weston is the first college in the UK to launch its own television channel with programmes produced and directed by students.

Check out the CUTV YouTube channel
www.youtube.com/mycutv



CUTV is the brainchild of Weston College Music Curriculum Manager, Paul Raymond and son, Corry, 19, who is studying BTEC Media Production.

Paul said: "This is a brilliant opportunity and resource for students to come up with programme ideas and put them into action. We've got four DCLR state-of-the-art cameras that have revolutionised filming so the programmes will have a very professional feel."

An interview with Manic Street Preachers record producer Greg Haver was one of the first transmitted in which he recalls what it's like to work in the music industry.



"I have really benefitted from the College's state-of-the-art facilities."

**Crystal Dimond,
Health and Social Care,
Level 3**

Crystal is really happy with the amount of support she has had since starting at the College; she is studying what interests her and believes this is invaluable in helping her develop new skills and improve existing ones.

What next? Crystal hopes to further her studies and gain a place on our LSA Teaching Assistant course to aid her progression in becoming a teaching assistant.

Apprentice wins two major awards

Aspiring Highbridge Chef Brad Edrich was honoured at Weston College's Excellence in Business Training Awards, celebrating our work with businesses and apprenticeship training.

"He has come on in leaps and bounds and was nominated for these awards because of his desire to learn and be the best."

Brad Edrich, 17, from received the Hospitality Learner of the Year Award and overall Principal Awards Learner of the Year.

The apprentice at Clavelshay Barn Restaurant in North Petherton near Bridgwater has become so proficient he is virtually running starter and dessert sections.

His employer, Sue Milverton, said: "Brad came in October last year and he is enthusiastic, hardworking and always on time. He's a brilliant apprentice who deserved to win."

Brad added: "I've wanted to be a Chef since I started cooking with my Nana when I was six years old. One day I want my own restaurant."

Weston College Principal and Chief Executive, Dr Paul Phillips OBE added: "Brad convinced his prospective employer to give him a trial and after his first day was offered the job of Apprentice Chef."



"I am grateful for the reassurance and support I was shown instantly at Weston College."





Environmental Health duo in the news

Two Public and Environmental Health Degree students at Weston College have been featured in a top industry publication.

Michelle May and Clair Weber, who are studying the BSc programme, were included in Environmental Health News, in an article discussing the benefit of internships.

The students are described as "exceptional candidates" after being selected for a prestigious internship scheme in Bristol City Council's environmental health units last summer.

In the article, the students describe the valuable experience the internship provided. Michelle said: "I was able to see how the theory that I had acquired through my studies was put into practice in the everyday role of environmental health practitioners."

“

Clair said:

I felt welcomed by the teams I spent time with. The officers took time to explain things to me and ask for my thoughts and opinions on aspects of environmental health.

”

Weston College bucks national trend

This year the number of students entering Higher Education has fallen by 12% nationally, however Weston College entrant numbers for that same period increased by an impressive 10%.

Director of Higher Education, Anthony Murray said: "The phenomenal increase in the number of students choosing to study with us is as a result of our outstanding 100% pass rate on all our courses, and a strong focus on employability placing our students at a real advantage when entering the world of work. This is demonstrated by 65% of Weston College graduates, securing a graduate level job within six months of finishing their course, compared with a national average of 45%."

In addition, an outstanding 20% of Weston College's honours' graduates gained a First Class degree in 2012, well above the national average of 14%.

Former Graphic Design student Lucy Finch says her Weston College degree helped prepare her for the world of work. "I enjoyed every minute of my time at Weston College and am so grateful for everything I have achieved," she said. "It gave me experience pitching to and working with real clients and helped me to get experience in the design world."

"The Weston College staff are fantastic and provided all the help and encouragement I needed. As part of the degree I won a competition to re-brand the Weston-super-Mare Sand Sculpture Festival I was then offered a work placement which since I have graduated has become a permanent position with Pace – a Clevedon-based design and print company."



Amy Williams

Olympic gold medallist toasts graduates

The glitter of Olympic gold dazzled more than 200 Weston College students as they graduated with Foundation and Honours degrees.

Gold medallist Amy Williams, MBE, who took the top spot in the Skeleton Bobsleigh event at the 2010 Winter Olympics, was guest speaker at the 2012 ceremony, telling graduates that 2012 is the year to celebrate effort and ability.

"In sport it is the extra percentage of work you put in that gets you the medals," she said, "and because you have all made that effort you are in a great position to go out in the world and do anything you want."

“

Dr Paul Phillips, OBE, Principal and Chief Executive, said:

I would like to congratulate everyone who has graduated for their hard work, dedication and commitment to their studies. Each year more and more students are choosing to study with us and they are reaping the rewards by achieving outstanding results and improving their job prospects. Long may this continue.

”

Interested in a course? Want to find out more?



Long-serving Gill receives prestigious award

A long-serving Weston College staff member has won a major award for her work in the field of Access to Higher Education (HE).

Gill Wilmot, Curriculum Manager for Access to HE, has worked for the College since 1976 and was awarded the Keith Fletcher Access to HE Memorial Prize for her work in helping to attract thousands of students to Weston.

Dr Paul Phillips, Weston College Principal and Chief Executive, told her: *"Inspirational teaching and learning combined with your dedication has brought much success to your students and the College. You are an example to us all."*

Gill's time at Weston College has been marked by a huge increase in the number of students taking up HE places. An inspiration to staff and students alike, Gill is as much concerned with the welfare of those who enrol for HE courses as she is about their academic success.

Former student Simon Roots said of her: *"Gill has a wonderfully infectious gift of being able to make everything possible and achievable. This altruistic gift has enabled many students to grasp their dreams and in doing so; improve the quality of their lives."*

Gill said: *"My job gives me an enormous amount of enjoyment. There can be no greater honour than teaching Access to Higher Education students and seeing them achieving their dreams."*



'Tech Genius' students set up College IT help-desk

A group of HE Computing students are assisting with a variety of IT problems after setting up their own IT desk at Knightstone Campus.

The 'Tech Genius' help-desk is operating in the College's LibraryPlus facility and although it was set up to provide support and solutions for fellow students, staff members are now coming forward seeking help.

The help-desk aims to solve a range of computing problems; everything from virus issues to Sims cheats. For the students themselves, it's as much about learning the techniques of customer service and satisfaction as it is about using their IT knowledge to help others.

“

Dan Fay, 19, who is studying a Foundation Degree in Applied Computing, and one of the 'tech geni', said:

We're dealing with a wide range of issues and questions, everything from sorting out laptops to fixing viruses. The students seem comfortable bringing their IT problems to fellow students so in that respect it is working well.

”

Lord Mayor praises Weston College

BRISTOL'S Lord Mayor has praised Weston College for opening the doors of Higher Education to him.

Labour Councillor, Faruk Choudhury, became Bristol's youngest and first Muslim Lord Mayor in May and plans to go to university after taking up his post.

The 38-year-old has a Foundation Degree from Bangladesh where he was born but needed to pass a British Access to Higher Education course to study at a UK university.

Mr Choudhury attended Weston College from December 2011 until 2012 and after his year in office as Lord Mayor he is set to enrol on a law degree.

“

Faruk said:

Weston College was a fantastic environment to study. Lecturers helped me in every way they could and thanks to them opportunities in my life completely opened up. I am honoured to be chosen to become Lord Mayor and would love to come back and visit Weston College.

To be picked to become Lord Mayor is very exciting for me and my family. I'm going to work incredibly hard while I am in office then I'll look forward to studying at university.

”



A new style of recruitment

Our progressive apprenticeship programme delivers fresh, eager talent to forward-thinking businesses, carefully sourced by our highly experienced Recruitment team – free of charge.

It's all about developing an organisation's most valuable assets – which is why a Weston College trained apprentice is a bonus! In 90% of cases employers offer their apprentice a permanent position at the end of the placement. It works! We advertise your vacancy, shortlist the CVs and provide support and advice throughout. Or you could recruit from within – your own staff could be an apprentice in the making.

Contact us for a no-obligation chat about funding, grants and how we could help your own business look ahead on **01934 411 594**.



“

Museum manager, Adam Brown, was so impressed with the Apprenticeship candidates that he interviewed from the College that he asked me for permission to take on two apprentices!

Tania Middlemiss,
Assistant Town Clerk

”



Weston's got talent!

You've almost certainly heard of Britain's Got Talent – Simon Cowell's attempt to find hidden talent and present it to the nation.

Well, Weston College's Business Enterprise Centre (BEC) has talent too! BEC works with over 1,000 businesses across North Somerset in a broad range of sectors. The very life blood of every business is its staff. This includes the 1,200 apprentices employed in these companies, and the 100s of staff that train on Weston College's many vocational and statutory courses.

Training, education and personal development

However, BEC's role isn't to simply produce a one-off show. It provides training, education and personal development that goes on throughout the year, to make the very most of the talents of its students.

Of course, the students do some singing and dancing but, more importantly, they:

- Produce meals to five star quality at Doubletree by Hilton Cadbury House
- Sell or let houses in beautiful towns and villages at Heritage Estate Agents and Glentworth Lettings
- Care for the elderly and infirm at Brunelcare
- Manage guest houses, like Parasol Guest House
- Curate local museums.

Students contribute to their community and local economy by getting into the job market and gaining qualifications that will set them in good stead for a sound future.



Max Bennett



Stephen Nicholls



Charlotte Kidner

Interested in a course? *Want to find out more?*



Max Bennett completed his apprenticeship in Hospitality Services at Doubletree by Hilton, Cadbury House Hotel in Congresbury.

He performed to a consistently excellent standard and is valued extremely highly by his colleagues and managers in the Marco Pierre-White Restaurant – even getting Marco’s autograph as a sign of his approval.

Max, who was Weston College’s joint Apprentice of the Year in 2013, said: *“The apprenticeship scheme has been brilliant for me and I’d recommend it for anyone thinking about doing a similar thing. I didn’t want to sit in a classroom all day, so hands-on experience was the ideal solution.”*

Max, who still works at Cadbury House in the Marco Pierre-White Restaurant, now aims to gain a customer services qualification and work his way up the career ladder.

Charlotte Kidner – Weston College’s joint Apprentice of the Year in 2013 – was employed at Weston General Hospital during her Business Administration apprenticeship.

Charlotte completed her programme three months ahead of schedule, despite working long hours and holding down two jobs to an extremely high standard. She has now progressed to the Access to Higher Education course whilst still working at the hospital as a health care assistant and is aiming for a career in the medical profession.

Stephen Nicholls, a former logistics worker from Worle, was diagnosed with a deteriorating condition that eventually led to blindness. It left the father-of-five feeling depressed and unemployable.

He said: *“I didn’t want to go out of the house but realised I had to do something so signed up at Weston College.”*

In May 2012, Stephen regained some vision in his left eye after a successful corneal transplant, which enabled him to study a Level 2 course in Personal Training. He progressed to the Level 3 Diploma and also took further specialist qualifications to work with disabled people. Stephen found employment with a mobile valeting service based in Portishead and has also started a

vocational qualification in Customer Service.

A grateful Steven has attended the College’s Business Enterprise Centre on several occasions to tell those on the ASPIRE course for job seekers about his fight back to health and employment.

Delyth Meredith-Jones – Single parent, Delyth Meredith-Jones was an English language specialist learning support assistant (LSA) in London when she relocated to North Somerset. She was referred to Opportunity North Somerset, a Jobcentre Plus initiative to help 100 job-ready people into work which provides one-to-one mentoring support from the Weston College Business Enterprise Centre team. To help Delyth get her career back on track, the College’s Choices programme helped give her an initial confidence boost and helped her establish a pathway for her return to work. She then attended the popular ASPIRE course which gave her the final impetus needed. Delyth now works as a Learning Support Assistant at Bournville School.

Want to join our talent pool?

Weston College’s specialist recruitment team can help find your best career route by providing support and guidance. Whether you’re a school leaver aiming to start a career, unemployed and looking for work, or in a job but wanting to learn new skills, the College’s Business Enterprise Centre (BEC) can help.



It offers a wide range of apprenticeship programmes and vocational training – from Level 2 through to degree level – as well as a variety of pre-employment training courses.

Worried about fees?

If you’re under 24 your courses will usually be fully or partially subsidised and if you’re 24 or over the new Advanced Learning Loan is a great way to invest in your future as you don’t pay any upfront fees. So, now has never been a better time to unlock your hidden talents!

For support on your next step call BEC on **01934 411 594** and one of our team will guide you through the options available to you with a free advice and guidance session.



I am very passionate about my trade and aspire to be the best I can be, my mentor came 8th at the WorldSkills London 2012 in Beauty Therapy. I want to follow in her footsteps becoming the UK number one!

Emma Rogers, National Apprentice of the Year 2013



“
Kimberley really stands out in the crowd and we really could not have survived without her.
Amanda Davies, Bursar, Locking School, about their apprentice
”



“
John had a brilliant attitude to looking for work, which is why he now has a job with a major employer.
Frank Dennett, ASPIRE tutor
”

Apprenticeship grant for employers!

The apprenticeship grant for employers of 16-24 year olds (AGE 16-24) aims to support businesses to grow by providing incentives to assist in offering young people employment through the apprenticeship programme.

The grant targets employers who are new to apprenticeships and recruiting their first apprentice. It also supports employers who have not been in a position within the previous twelve months to commit to employing an apprentice again.

The National Apprenticeship Service will provide up to 40,000 grants to employers with up to 1,000 employees recruiting 16 to 24 year olds, with a value of £1,500 to encourage them to take on new apprentices (to a maximum of 10 payments).

Please call **01934 411 594** or email apprenticeships@weston.ac.uk for more details. Opportunities for your staff, call us on 01934 411594 and one of our team will guide you through your options in a free advice and guidance session.

Traineeships: new for September 2013

a real alternative to staying on at school

Weston College is launching a fantastic range of traineeships from September 2013.

These are aimed at people under 24 who are motivated to work but are finding it hard to get a step on the ladder. The traineeships will focus on aspects of employment, such as attitude, presentation, basic employability skills, high quality work experience and improving English and maths skills. The programmes are short – between three and six months – and are designed with employers to ensure they reflect the needs of the local businesses. They will provide the young person with a head start over the competition when applying for jobs!

Want to know more, contact the College's Business Enterprise Centre on **01934 411 594**.

“
This is a really exciting opportunity for those who do not want to stay in school or go to college. Traineeships will offer personalised support along with valuable qualifications and experience.
Liz Redwood, Head of Business Enterprise Centre
”



Choices, choices, choices

Few people are lucky enough to have a fully defined vocation to a particular first career whilst still at school. Most of us get advice from a range of sources and go with a choice based on our best guess.

The choices open to school leavers are wider than ever before – the big question is, with nearly a million 16 to 24-year-olds unemployed, which choices are most likely to lead to a successful career?

Fortunately, a recent nationwide survey by ICM Research of 500 employers, gives some insight into how employers view these educational options. Employers ranging from small/medium-sized businesses to blue chip companies – from a variety of sectors – were asked to rate the employability of people with different qualifications on a scale of 1 (not at all employable) to 10 (more employable).

The survey suggests that English employers rate qualified apprentices most employable than those with other qualifications. The mean of all three apprenticeships – intermediate (Level 2), advanced (Level 3) and higher (Level 4+) scored 7.36, while the average for other qualifications was 6.38 – a massive 15% difference.

“
It's much more hands-on and as I didn't want to sit in a classroom all day an apprenticeship was the ideal solution for me.
”
Max Bennett, Apprentice

Those with a higher (degree-level) apprenticeship were rated most desirable at 7.98 whilst those who had university degrees were rated slightly lower in the survey (7.58). Amongst employers in the South West, this gap was even wider.

It is important to note that different educational choices may also suit some learning styles and personal circumstances better than others, so the choice is not black and white.

Fortunately, the choice of where to study and get informed advice is easy. Weston College offers a fantastic range of high quality courses and has won numerous awards for its provision – from apprenticeships to degree-level courses.

For more information about any of our courses contact **01934 411 411** or go to **www.weston.ac.uk**



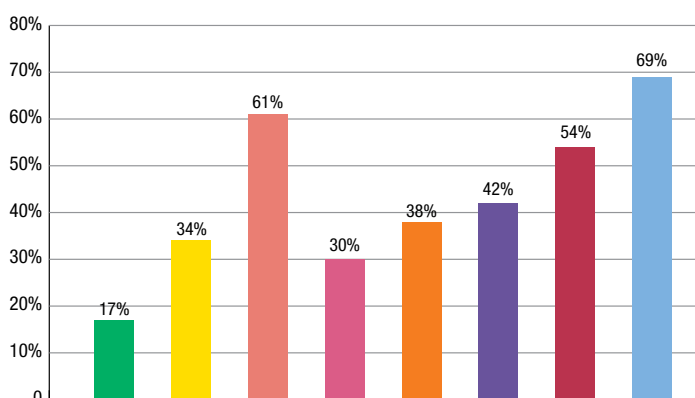
90% employed

By their employer at the end of their apprenticeship

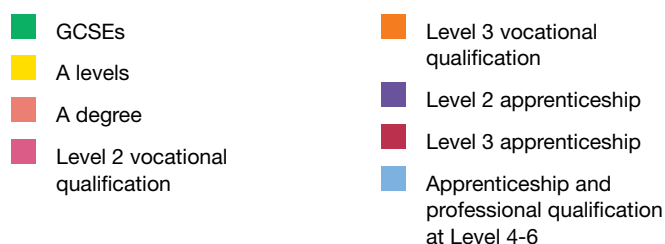
300% growth

in employer work placements

Qualifications most valued by employers



Source: ICM survey Feb. 2013



Learn a new skill or develop your career?

Weston College offers a fantastic range of courses that can be studied part-time. Whether it's to progress in your current job role, gain professional qualifications, retrain, progress to university or simply learn a new hobby, we have the programme of study to suit your requirements. Here's just a taster on what's on offer...

Looking to get back into work?

If you're unemployed, we offer a range of courses designed to develop employability skills and boost your chances of finding a job. Our courses will build your confidence, improve your CV and help you understand what employers are looking for. Courses include:

- ASPIRE – a two-week course designed to make you job ready
- N-gage 19+ – an eight-week course for people aged between 19 and 24 looking to update and improve their job searching knowledge
- A CV Workshop.

Join the IT crowd

IT skills are becoming increasingly important, whether you use computers in your job or simply like to surf the web and respond to emails in your spare time. Our computing courses will teach you to use basic programmes – such as Microsoft Word, Outlook and Excel – or allow you to gain nationally recognised qualifications. Courses we offer include:

- IT for beginners
- Web Design using Dreamweaver
- European Computer Driving License (various levels)
- IT, BTEC Diploma.

Unleash your creative flair

Whether you're looking to take up painting as a hobby, decorate your home, or become a graphic designer, we have a course for every artistic mind. We boast state-of-the-art facilities, a purpose-built art department and we are an Apple-Authorised Training Centre.

Courses include:

- Watercolour for all abilities
- Creative techniques in Interior Design
- Adobe Creative Suite, Introduction
- Graphic Design, Foundation Degree.

Sustainable and renewable technology

Weston College is the largest supplier of sustainable and renewable technologies courses in the region. And, with the introduction of the Green Deal – where homeowners can install new green technology and pay back the costs over a period of time – there has been no better time to enrol on a course for environmental professionals. Courses include:

- Woody Biomass
- Rainwater Harvesting and Grey Water Recycling, BPEC
- Installation of Solar Thermal Systems EAL, Award
- Green Deal Domestic Advisor, Diploma.

Let's get down to business

We can help you get ahead of the game in a new job, develop the entrepreneurial skills required to start your own enterprise or gain in-demand administration qualifications. We also offer a fantastic range of accounting qualifications. Courses include:

- Business, BTEC Diploma (various levels)
- Customer Service (various levels)
- Enterprise and Entrepreneurship, ILM Certificate
- Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT) (various levels).

Nurture your caring side

The number of people working in health and social care is expected to grow by 9% by 2020. So, if you're suited to supporting people with mental health issues, or are interested in a career in nursing or in counselling bereaved children, our courses can help you progress to your perfect job role. Courses include:

- Mental Health Awareness, Award
- Health and Social Care, Diploma
- Children and Young People's Workforce (various levels).

An eye for beauty

Do you want to help people look and feel good? A career in the hair and beauty industry – as a hairdresser, beauty therapist or salon manager – combines the satisfaction of doing a job that has immediate results with social interaction. Our courses can enable you to pursue your dream, and include:

- Beauty Therapy Treatments, Diploma
- Spa Therapy, Diploma
- Salon Management, Certificate
- Barbering (various levels)
- Hairdressing (various levels).

Let's make music

If you've always wanted to learn an instrument, take your skills to the next level or, perhaps, make music more than just a hobby, we can help. We also offer outstanding facilities for aspiring actors, dancers and performers. Courses include:

- Guitar/bass guitar (various levels)
- Drum (various levels)
- Theatre Performance.

Aiming to reach university?

Don't let a lack of qualifications quash your dreams of going to university or getting a job that requires a degree. Our Access to Higher Education course can be studied part-time and is your passport to university. We offer four Access to HE courses – Education; Nursing, Health and Social Care (fast track option available); Animal and Equine Management – depending on what you want to study at university.

Gain trade skills

Quality plumbing, electrical installation, carpentry and brickwork skills are always in demand and, in the Construction and Engineering Centre of Excellence, we provide a fantastic environment to learn a trade or gain industry-recognised qualifications. We even offer courses that will enable you to brush up on your DIY skills. Courses include:

- Bricklaying (various levels)
- Plastering (various levels)

NEW 24+ Advanced Learning Loan

- Design of Electrical Installations, City and Guilds
- Carpentry (various levels)
- Plumbing Studies (various levels)
- Painting and Decorating Taster.

Ready... steady... cook!

Can you see yourself working in a top restaurant or managing a hotel or feeling the buzz of organising the next big event? Our courses can set you on the road to becoming a professional chef, embarking on a career in the hospitality industry... or even help you impress family and friends with a flair for cake making! Courses include:

- Cake Decoration, Award
- Hospitality Industry, Introduction Certificate
- Professional Cookery (various levels).

Other course areas include:

- British Sign Language
- Cake Decoration
- Digital Photography
- First Aid
- Food Hygiene
- Personal Training
- Professional Cookery
- Property (Sale of Residential Property)
- World Host.

Now you can learn and pay when you earn

If finances have ever prevented you from learning new skills or gaining qualifications, the New 24+ Advanced Learning Loan could be the solution.

The loan pays for Level 3 and 4 course fees – certificates and diplomas – if you're 24 or over, and you don't need to pay back a penny until you're earning over £21,000 per year.

We offer over 60 courses that are covered by the 24+ Loan, in the following areas:

- Access to Higher Education
- Accounting
- Apprenticeships, Level 3 and 4
- Business, IT and Property Sale/Letting
- Childcare, Health and Social Care, Counselling
- Construction and Engineering
- Creative Arts
- Hairdressing, Beauty and Complementary Therapies
- Hospitality and Cookery
- Music
- Performing/Production Arts
- Sport
- Teaching.

Now you can learn and pay when you earn

Have finances ever prevented you learning new skills or advancing your career?

The new 24+ Advanced Learning Loan could be the solution.

This loan covers Level 3 and 4 course fees* if you're 24 or over... and you won't need to pay back a penny until you're earning over £21k.

Don't miss this opportunity contact us today:

 01934 411 668

 24loan@weston.ac.uk

 www.weston.ac.uk





Tell us what you think and you could win a Kindle

We would like to know what you think about this newsletter. Please answer the questions below and return your feedback to be in with a chance of winning a Kindle Fire.

How did you obtain your copy of this newsletter?

- Delivered to my home/business
- Picked up at College
- From a College event
- By contacting the College
- Requested on college website
- Other (please specify)

Did you find the information contained in this newsletter interesting and useful?

- Yes. Please tell us what you found interesting and useful.
- No. Please tell us what information you would like to have seen in the newsletter.

Any comments?

Do you like the style and layout of the newsletter?

- Yes No

Any comments?

Are you likely to enrol on a course at Weston College this year?

- Yes No Unsure

If 'yes' which course(s)

Would you be interested in receiving one of our Course Guides?

- Yes No

If 'yes' please indicate which Course Guide you would be interested in:

- Part-time Course Guide
- Full-time Prospectus
- Undergraduate Prospectus

Would you be interested in receiving information about future open days/evenings?

- Yes No

Any comments?

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Home tel: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Please return this tear off slip to:
**Marketing, Weston College, Freepost (BS6 735),
Knightstone Road, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 2AL.**
(No stamp required).

Data Protection Act 1998 – I give my consent to Weston College recording and processing the personal information on this form, for any purposed of the College associated with the provision of advice and guidance to potential students on the range of courses available to them, college facilities and other associated information. In accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, the information will be used only for the above mentioned purposes. If you do not wish for any further information to be sent to you about Weston College please tick here. []

Competition rules – No purchase necessary. Normal college competition rules apply. No cash alternative. No correspondence will be entered into. The closing date for entries is 31.08.13. The first entry drawn out after the closing date will be awarded the prize.



Open to *the public*

A number of our facilities are open to the public including:

The Grove restaurant

The Grove, the College's industry standard training restaurant, offers excellent value and a varied menu. The food is prepared and served by our hospitality students.

Tel: **01934 411 422** to make a reservation.



Commercial hair and beauty salons

Our trainee hairdressers and beauty therapists run commercial salons at the College. Treatments include: hair cutting, blow-drying, hair colouring, facials, waxing, massage and spray tanning.

For details or to make an appointment, call **01934 411 433**. Have a look at treatments and prices online at www.weston.ac.uk/college/salon



Open evenings

- * Wednesday 16th October 2013
5pm-8pm
- * Wednesday 13th November 2013
5pm-8pm
- * Tuesday 14th January 2014
5pm-8pm

To book your place on an open evening, register your details at:

www.weston.ac.uk/openevenings



WESTON
COLLEGE

Recognised as one of the best at delivering university level study. **Fact.**

Weston College's university level provision achieved the highest number of areas of good practice in a national review by the QAA* following a year long scrutiny.

...in fact, we were awarded the highest number of good practices ever in the South West. The accolade is great but the benefits our professional approach brings our students are even more rewarding!

- Officially the top performing college in the South West
- 65% of honours students who graduated are now in related employment (2010)
- Job focused degrees – in partnership with employers, with work placements and links to industry
- Fees are less than most universities – and there is other financial help available
- Why pay extra for accommodation and travel when you can study locally?
- The courses are run with prestigious universities and the results are well above the national average.

Degrees include:

- Applied Animal Science and Management, FdSc
- Business with Management, FdA
- Care Management in the Community, FdSc
- Computing, FdSc and BSc (Hons)
- Contemporary Art and Professional Studies, FdA and BA (Hons)
- Counselling, FdSc and BSc (Hons)
- Early Childhood Studies, FdA
- Early Years, FdA and BA (Hons)
- Equine Science and Management, FdSc
- Film and Media Arts Production, FdA
- Graphic Design, FdA and BA (Hons)
- Health and Social Care Practice, FdSc
- Inclusive Practice, FdA
- Music Production, FdA
- Musical Theatre, FdA and BA (Hons)
- Performing Arts, FdA and BA (Hons)
- Photography in Practice, FdA and BA (Hons)
- Popular Music, FdA
- Public and Environmental Health, FdSc and BSc (Hons)
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- Uniformed Services, FdA and BA (Hons)

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